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**Inter-university Consortium for**  
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## Referenda and Primary Election Materials

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### Part 11: Referenda Elections for Illinois

Inter-university Consortium for  
Political and Social Research

ICPSR 0006

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June 2002



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## Referenda and Primary Election Materials

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### Part 11: Referenda Elections for Illinois



REFERENDA AND PRIMARY ELECTION MATERIALS

(ICPSR 0006)

Principal Investigator

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To provide funding agencies with essential information about use of archival resources and to facilitate the exchange of information about ICPSR participants' research activities, users of ICPSR data are requested to send to ICPSR bibliographic citations for each completed manuscript or thesis abstract. Please indicate in a cover letter which data were used.

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## DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research  
REFERENDA AND PRIMARY ELECTION MATERIALS (ICPSR 0006)

**COLLECTION CHANGES:** Data for 1990 have been added to this collection, and SAS data definition statements (Parts 51-100) are now available for Parts 1-50.

**NOTE:** Most of the information in this collection is available ONLY in typed and photocopied form. The exception is data from 1968 to 1990. ICPSR has converted all statewide referenda returns from 1968-1990 into machine-readable form. Included in this portion of the collection are the county vote breakdowns for approximately 4,241 referenda voted upon in primary and general elections throughout the United States. A typed hardcopy codebook accompanies each state file. The primary election data are NOT available in machine-readable form. It is possible to supply, on a cost basis, limited portions of the referenda and primary election returns in the form of photocopies.

**EXTENT OF COLLECTION:** 50 data files + SAS data definition statements + SPSS data definition statements

**EXTENT OF PROCESSING:** CONCHK.ICPSR/ UNDOCCHK.ICPSR/ MDATA.ICPSR

**DATA FORMAT:** Logical Record Length with SAS and SPSS data definition statements

Parts 1-50: Referenda Elections  
for States

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 3 to 254 per part

Variables: 13 to 1,251 per part

Record Length: 85 to 7,919

per part

Records Per Case: 1

Parts 51-100: SAS Data  
Definition Statements

Record Length: 80



REFERENDA

Var. #

Description

1  
2  
3

ICPSR State Code 21  
County or State Name  
Identification Number  
Unique numeric identification number assigned to each county or independent city with a state. The identification number for state-level records is 0000. This identification number, when used in conjunction with the ICPSR state code, uniquely identifies each unit of analysis in the data file.

1968 Referendum

Constitutional Amendment

General Election, November 5, 1968

Yes = 1,776, 492; No = 1,091,116

The Proposed Amendment to the Banking Act: "Shall an Act be adopted amending Section 6 of Illinois Banking Act assuring Illinois state banks the power to have foreign branches, but not otherwise changing the prohibition against branch banking in Illinois?"

4  
5

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

1968 Referendum

Proposition of Calling a Constitutional Convention

General Election, November 5, 1968

Yes = 2,979,977; No = 1,135,440

For the Calling of a Constitutional Convention:  
"A vote in support of this issue will authorize the calling of a Constitutional Convention for the single purpose of reviewing the 1870 Illinois Constitution.

6  
7

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

State Illinois

REFERENDUM

Var. #

Description

1968 Referendum

Bond Act

General Election, November 5, 1968

Yes = 1,656,600: No = 1,216,814

Proposed Natural Resources Development Bond Act

Shall the Natural Resources Development Bond Act

enacted by the 75th General Assembly, become effec-  
tive and the State of Illinois contract a debt of

\$1,000,000,000 and issue bonds to that amount as

8

Vote Yes (For) (see next page)

9

Vote No (Against)

Referendum

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

Natural Resources Development Bond Act (continued) - provided in such Act, and shall the State of Illinois levy annually a direct tax sufficient to pay the interest on and to discharge the principal of such bonds in accordance with that Act, which Act provides that, to the extent that funds are available in the General Revenue Fund of the State, the General Assembly is authorized to direct the transfer of funds from time to time from that fund to the Natural Resources Development Bond Retirement and Interest Fund sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds provided for by that Act, and to the extent that money is so transferred, then the appropriate officers in fixing the rate of that direct annual tax shall make proper allowance in the amount of money so transferred in reduction of the taxes to be levied and such tax shall be abated in that amount?

Source: State of Illinois, Official Vote, Cast at the General Election, November 5, 1968, Judicial . Primary Election, General Primary, June 11, 1968, Compiled by Paul Powell, Secretary of State

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1970 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 3, 1970Yes = 2,925,058; No = 410,333Proposed Amendment.

Vote for Proposed Amendment to add Article IX-A  
to the Constitution. (Prohibition of taxation of  
personal property by valuation as to individuals)

10

Vote Yes (For)

11

Vote No (Against)

1970 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 3, 1970Yes = 2,291,718; No = 544,116Proposed Amendment.Vote for the Proposed Anti-pollution Bond Act

12

Vote Yes (For)

13

Vote No (Against)

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1970 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 3, 1970Yes = 2,143,365; No - 462,425Proposed Amendment.Vote for Proposed Amendments to the Illinois Banking  
Act.

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

1970 ReferendaPropositionSpecial Election, December 15, 1970Yes = 1,122,425; No = 838,168Proposition:Do you approve the proposed 1970 Constitution?

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)



State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1970 ReferendaPropositionSpecial Election, December 15, 1970Multi = 1,031,241; Single = 749,909

Election of the 177 members of the House of Representatives  
from multi-member districts or from single member  
districts

18

Vote Multi

19

Vote Single

1970 ReferendaPropositionSpecial Election, December 15, 1970Election = 1,013,559; Appoint = 867.230

The election by the voters of Judges nominated in primary  
elections or by petition or the appointment of  
Judges by the Governor from nominees submitted by  
Judicial Nominating Commissions.

20

Vote Election

21

Vote Appointment

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1970 ReferendaPropositionSpecial Election, December 15, 1970Yes = 676,302; No = 1,218,791Proposition:Abolishing the death penalty.

22

Vote Yes (For)

23

Vote No (Against)

1970 ReferendaPropositionSpecial Election, December 15, 1970Yes = 869,816; No = 1,052,924Proposition:Lowering the voting age to 18.

24

Vote Yes (For)

25

Vote No (Against)

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1974 ReferendaGeneral Election November 5, 1974Total Ballots cast, 3,047,822

26

Total Ballots cast. 3,047,822

1974 ReferendaProposed Amendment to Section 9, Paragraph E  
of Article IV of the ConstitutionYes = 1,302,313    No = 1,329,719

27

Vote Yes (For)

28

Vote No (Against)

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1978 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 7, 1978Yes = 952,416; No = 733,845

CA #1: The personal property tax now is imposed on corporations, partnerships and trusts, and any replacement taxes must be imposed on them. Individuals have been exempt from the personal property tax since 1971, and replacement taxes may not be imposed on them. Article IX, Section 5(c) of the Illinois Constitution now requires that the legislature abolish all personal property taxes on or before January 1, 1979 and

29

Vote Yes (For) (see over)

30

Vote No (Against)

31

Total Votes

32

Vote Yes (Percent)

33

Vote No (Percent)

1978 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 7, 1978Yes = 747,907; No = 806,579

CA #2: This proposed Amendment to Article IX, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution would allow the General Assembly to exempt from property taxation "property used exclusively for post homes of Congressionally chartered veterans' organizations." The Constitution now permits property tax exemption only for: State property; Local government and school district property; Property used exclusively for school, religious, cemetery

34

Vote Yes (For) or charitable purposes.

35

Vote No (Against)

36

Total Votes

37

Votes Yes (Percent)

38

Votes No (Percent)

CA #1: simultaneously replace the abolished taxes with new taxes sufficient to replace revenues lost by local governments and school districts.

The proposed Constitutional Amendment eliminates the January 1, 1979 date for abolition and replacement of the tax. Further, the proposed Amendment makes permissive, rather than mandatory, the requirement that the legislature abolish the tax. This Amendment does not change the requirement for replacing the personal property tax in the event the legislature abolishes it.

State Illinois

## REFERENDA

Var. #Description1978 ReferendaConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election, November 7, 1978Yes = 1,668,710; No = 356,997

CA #3: Shall legislation be enacted and the Illinois  
constitution be amended to impose ceilings on taxes  
and spending by the State of Illinois, Units of  
local government, and school districts?

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

39

Vote Yes (For)

40

Vote No (Against)

41

Total Votes

42

Vote Yes (Percent)

43

Vote No (Percent)

Referenda

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Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

Total Votes

Votes Yes (Percent)

Votes No (Percent)

State Illinois

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description1980 Ballot ProposalsConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election--November 4th, 1980Yes=2,112,224 No=1,011,568

FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
SECTIONS 1, 2 AND 3 OF ARTICLE IV  
OF THE CONSTITUTION (LEGISLATIVE  
ARTICLE)

YES --- 19 --&gt;

NO --- 20 --&gt;

44  
45  
46  
47  
48

Vote Yes (For)  
Vote No (Against)  
Total Votes  
Vote Yes (percent)  
Vote No (percent)

State Illinois

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description1980 Ballot ProposalsConstitutional AmendmentGeneral Election--November 4th, 1980Yes=1,857,985 No=798,422

FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
SECTION 8 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE CON-  
STITUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY TO REDUCE THE REDEMPTION  
PERIOD FOLLOWING CERTAIN TAX SALES  
WHICH OCCUR AFTER PROPERTY TAXES  
HAVE NOT BEEN PAID FOR (5) YEARS.

YES --- 12 --&gt;

NO --- 13 --&gt;

49  
50  
51  
52  
53

Vote Yes (For)  
Vote No (Against)  
Total Votes  
Vote Yes (percent)  
Vote No (percent)

State ILLINOIS

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description1982 Ballot ProposalsGeneral Election, November 2, 1982Yes = 1,389,796      No = 239,380**ARTICLE I**  
**(Proposed Amendment)**

(Proposed changes in the existing Constitutional provision are indicated by underscoring all new matter. This proposed amendment does not delete any existing matter.)

**SECTION 9. BAIL AND HABEAS CORPUS**

All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses and offenses for which a sentence of life imprisonment may be imposed as a consequence of conviction where the proof is evident or the presumption great. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except in cases of rebellion or invasion when the public safety may require it.

54  
55  
56  
57  
58Vote Yes (For)  
Vote No (Against)  
Total Votes  
Vote Yes (percent)  
Vote No (percent)

State \_\_\_\_\_

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description                 Ballot ProposalsVote Yes (For)  
Vote No (Against)  
Total Votes  
Vote Yes (percent)  
Vote No (percent)



## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description1984Ballot Proposals  
Const. AmendmentGeneral Election: November 6, 1984  
Yes = 1,147,864 No = 1,042,481Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This proposed Amendment to Article IX, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution would authorize the General Assembly to pass legislation which exempts from taxation property used exclusively for veterans' organizations and for patriotic purposes

The Constitution now authorizes property tax exemption only for:

\*\* State property.

\*\* Local government and school district property.

\*\* Property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, and

\*\* Property used exclusively for school, religious, cemetery or charitable purposes

59

Vote Yes (For)

60

Vote No (Against)

61

Total Votes

62

Vote Yes (percent)

63

Vote No (percent)

State \_\_\_\_\_

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #DescriptionBallot Proposals

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

Total Votes

Vote Yes (percent)

Vote No (percent)

State ILLINOIS

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #Description1986 Ballot Proposals

Constitutional Amendment

General Election: November 4, 1986

Yes = 860,609

No = 727,119

This proposed Amendment to Article IX, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution would authorize the General Assembly to pass legislation that exempts from taxation property used exclusively for veterans' organizations.

The proposed amendment would require the State to reimburse a unit of local government for the loss in revenue incurred by such unit of local government as a result of the property tax exemption for veterans' organizations.

The Constitution now authorizes property tax exemptions only for:

- State property;
- Local government and school district property;
- Property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies; and
- Property used exclusively for school, religious, cemetery or charitable purposes.

69

70

71

72

73

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

Total Votes

Vote Yes (percent)

Vote No (percent)

State \_\_\_\_\_

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

Var. #DescriptionBallot Proposals

Vote Yes (For)

Vote No (Against)

Total Votes

Vote Yes (percent)

Vote No (percent)

State ILLINOIS

## BALLOT PROPOSALS - 1988

<u>Variable #</u>		<u>Description</u>
74	Vote Yes (For)	Constitutional Amendment, General
75	Vote No (Against)	
76	Total Votes	Election: November 8, 1988.
77	Vote Yes (percent)	
78	Vote No (percent)	YES = 900,109      NO = 2,727,144

**CONSTITUTIONAL BALLOT  
PROPOSED CALL FOR A  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CALL**

This proposal deals with a call for a state constitutional convention. The last such convention was held in 1969-70, and a new constitution was adopted in 1970. That document requires that the question of calling a convention be placed before the voters every 20 years. This is your opportunity to vote on that question. If you believe the 1970 Illinois Constitution needs to be revised through the calling of a convention, you should vote YES. If you believe that a call for a constitutional convention is unnecessary, or that changes can be accomplished through other means, you should vote NO.

Punch the number opposite "YES" or "NO" to indicate your choice.

**FOR THE CALLING OF A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

**YES — 9 →**

**NO — 10 →**

<u>Variable #</u>		<u>Description</u>
79	Vote Yes (For)	Constitutional Amendment, General
80	Vote No (Against)	
81	Total Votes	Election: November 8, 1988.
82	Vote Yes (percent)	
83	Vote No (percent)	YES = 2,086,744      NO = 1,162,258

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE III  
(VOTING QUALIFICATIONS)  
EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

The proposed Amendment to Article III, Section 1, would make two changes in the Section setting forth voting qualifications for Illinois residents, both of which conform the Illinois Constitution to the requirements of federal law. First, the amendment would extend the right to vote to citizens between the ages of 18 and 21. The United States Constitution mandates the 18-year-old vote, and Illinois law has so provided since 1975. Second, the amendment would reduce the residency requirement for voting from 6 months to 30 days, which would bring Illinois law into line with federal constitutional requirements.

Punch the number opposite "YES" or "NO" to indicate your choice.

**FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE III OF THE  
CONSTITUTION TO CONFORM ILLINOIS LAW ON VOTING QUALIFICATIONS TO  
FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**

**YES — 18 →**

**NO — 19 →**

State ILLINOIS

## BALLOT PROPOSALS - 1988

<u>Variable #</u>	<u>Description</u>
84	Vote Yes (For)
85	Vote No (Against)
86	Total Votes
87	Vote Yes (percent)
88	Vote No (percent)
	Election: November 8, 1988.
	YES = 1,497,885      NO = 1,035,190

**CONSTITUTIONAL BALLOT  
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
SECTION 8 OF ARTICLE IX  
(DELINQUENT TAX SALES)**

**EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

The proposed Amendment deals with the problem of tax delinquency on commercial, industrial, vacant non-farm, and large multi-unit residential properties. This has no effect on single-family homes, farms, or apartment buildings containing 6 or fewer units.

Present Illinois law attempts to place tax delinquent properties back on the tax rolls. In addition to an Annual Sale which must be held each year, recent changes in the law permit counties to conduct a "Scavenger Sale" for properties which are at least two years tax delinquent. The highest bidder at the Scavenger Sale receives a tax sale certificate. After the Scavenger Sale, the property owner is given a period of time to redeem the outstanding taxes. The certificate holder can take title to the property after this redemption period has expired.

The Constitution now guarantees the delinquent owner two years to pay back or redeem the delinquent taxes after the Scavenger Sale, with some exceptions: if a commercial, industrial, vacant non-farm or large multifamily (7 or more units) property is five or more years delinquent, the redemption period is currently six months.

The proposed Amendment has two components: First, it would allow the General Assembly to apply a six month redemption period to vacant non-farm, commercial, industrial and large multifamily properties which are two or more years delinquent. Second, the proposed Amendment would allow the General Assembly to apply a one year redemption period to the same properties if they are less than two years delinquent. Note that the Constitution simply establishes guidelines for the General Assembly, which is required to set specific redemption periods through the regular legislative process.

The net effect of this Amendment will be that all vacant, commercial, industrial and large multifamily properties (7 or more units) which are two or more years delinquent will have a redemption period of at least six months; and that vacant, commercial, industrial and large multifamily property (7 or more units) which are less than two years delinquent will have a redemption period of at least one year.

It should be noted that the proposed Amendment more than adequately protects all property owners. It has no effect on single-family residences, farms, or small apartment buildings; it applies only to commercial, industrial, and vacant non-farm properties and buildings of 7 units or more. Even tax delinquent property owners will by law receive multiple notices of their delinquency before the property is put up for sale.

Punch the number opposite "YES" or "NO" to indicate your choice.

**FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 8 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE CONSTITUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REDUCE THE REDEMPTION PERIOD FOLLOWING CERTAIN TAX SALES WHICH OCCUR AFTER PROPERTY TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID ON MULTIFAMILY, VACANT NON-FARM, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY ONLY.**

**YES — 37 —>**

**NO — 38 —>**



## BALLOT PROPOSALS - 1990

State: IL

Variable #Description:

V89	Vote Yes (For)	Constitutional Amendment			
V90	Vote No (Against)				
V91	Total Votes	<u>Primary</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>General</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Other</u>
V92	Vote Yes (percent)	Date: 11/6/90			
V93	Vote No (percent)	YES = 1,004,546	NO = 385,772		

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 8 OF ARTICLE IX**  
**(Delinquent Tax Sales)**

For the proposed amendment to Section 8 of Article IX of the Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to reduce the redemption period following tax sales on delinquent commercial, industrial, vacant non-farm and large multifamily residential properties only.

## BALLOT PROPOSALS - 1990

State:

Variable #Description:

Vote Yes (For)				
Vote No (Against)				
Total Votes	<u>Primary</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Other</u>
Vote Yes (percent)	Date:			
Vote No (percent)	YES =	NO =		